WASHINGTON, DC—On Thursday, March 19th, Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) welcomed students from the Academy of Notre Dame de Namur in Villanova, who were visiting Washington, D.C., for a school field trip, to discuss current issues facing our nation, including education and veterans' benefits.

"The education of our youth is the foundation of the future economic and cultural prosperity of our nation," said Congressman Sestak, a member of the House Education and Labor Committee. "I believe that young people can do great things through their determination and hope for a better vision of the future. Beginning a dialogue with elected officials and staying involved in current events and community issues is an important part of this effort."

Located in Villanova, Pennsylvania, the Academy of Notre Dame de Namur is a Catholic, independent, college-preparatory school that educates young women in grades 6 through 12.

Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.

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